

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A separator for a fuel cell, comprising:

a substrate made of a metal material comprising groove-like gas flow passages prepared by bending the substrate; and

a conductive polymer film formed on a surface of said bent substrate by electrolytic polymerization.

2. (currently amended): A separator for a fuel cell, comprising:

a substrate made of a metal material;

a passive-state layer ~~that is superior in conductivity and corrosion resistance~~ formed on a surface of said substrate by immersing the substrate in a solution selected from the group consisting of solutions of nitric acid, chromic acid, bichromate of soda and potassium permanganate or by subjecting the substrate to electrolysis in an acid liquid, or by subjecting the substrate to anodic polarization; and

a conductive polymer film is formed on the passive-state layer.

3. (original): The separator for a fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein the conductive polymer film is not subjected to baking.

4. (original): The separator for a fuel cell according to claim 2, wherein the conductive polymer film is not subjected to baking.

5. (currently amended): A method of manufacturing~~method of~~ a separator for a fuel cell, ~~wherein which comprises forming~~ a conductive polymer film ~~is formed~~ on a surface of a bent substrate made of a metal material by electrolytic polymerization.

6. (currently amended): A method of manufacturing~~method of~~ a separator for a fuel cell, which comprises forming~~wherein a conductive polymer film is formed~~, by electrolytic polymerization, on a passive-state layer by immersing the substrate in a solution selected from the group consisting of solutions of nitric acid, chromic acid, bichromate of soda and potassium permanganate or by subjecting the substrate to electrolysis in an acid liquid, or by subjecting the substrate to anodic polarization, that is formed on a surface of a substrate made of a metal material.

7. (currently amended): A method of manufacturing~~method of~~ a separator for a fuel cell, comprising the steps of:

forming groove-like gas flow passages by bending a substrate made of a metal material;
and

then forming a conductive polymer film on a surface of the bent substrate by electrolytic polymerization.

8. (currently amended): A method of manufacturing~~method of~~ a separator for a fuel cell, comprising the steps of:

forming groove-like gas flow passages by bending a substrate made of a metal material;

then forming a passive-state layer by immersing the substrate in a solution selected from the group consisting of solutions of nitric acid, chromic acid, bichromate of soda and potassium permanganate or by subjecting the substrate to electrolysis in an acid liquid, or by subjecting the substrate to anodic polarization on a surface of the bent substrate; and

forming a conductive polymer film on the passive-state layer by electrolytic polymerization.

9. (currently amended): The method of manufacturing~~method of~~ a separator for a fuel cell according to claim 5, wherein the electrolytic polymerization is performed by using the substrate as an electrolytic polymerization electrode.

10. (currently amended): The method of manufacturing~~method of~~ a separator for a fuel cell according to claim 6, which comprises using the substrate as an electrolytic polymerization electrode~~in wherein the electrolytic polymerization is performed by using the substrate as an electrolytic polymerization electrode.~~

11. (currently amended): The method of manufacturing~~method of~~ a separator for a fuel cell according to claim 7, which comprises using the substrate as an electrolytic

polymerization electrode in~~wherein the electrolytic polymerization is performed by using the~~
~~substrate as an electrolytic polymerization electrode.~~

12. (currently amended): The method of manufacturing~~method~~ of a separator for a fuel cell according to claim 8, which comprises using the substrate as an electrolytic
polymerization electrode in~~wherein the electrolytic polymerization is performed by using the~~
~~substrate as an electrolytic polymerization electrode.~~